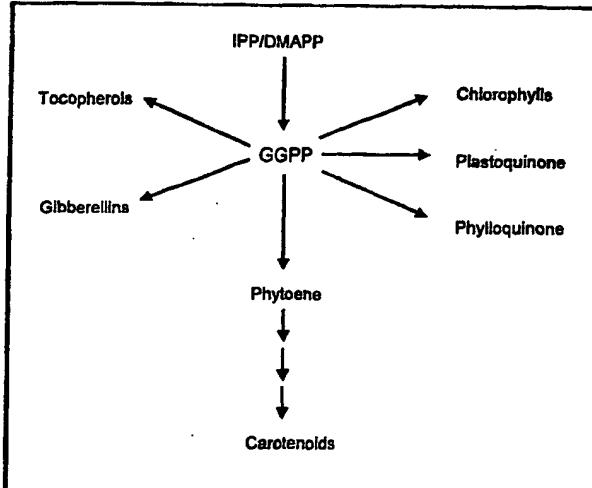


## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup> :		(11) International Publication Number:	WO 00/53768
C12N 15/52, 15/53, 15/82, 5/10, A01H 5/00	A1	(43) International Publication Date:	14 September 2000 (14.09.00)

(21) International Application Number:	PCT/EP00/01850	(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TI, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
(22) International Filing Date:	3 March 2000 (03.03.00)	
(30) Priority Data:		
199 09 637.6	5 March 1999 (05.03.99)	DE
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE AGRONOMIC AND NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF PLANTS



(57) Abstract

The present invention provides means and methods of transforming plant cells, seeds, tissues or whole plants in order to yield transformants capable of expressing all enzymes of the carotenoid biosynthesis pathway that are essential for the targeted host plant to accumulate carotenes and/or xanthophylls of interest. The present invention also provides DNA molecules designed to be suitable for carrying out the method of the invention, and plasmids or vector systems comprising said molecules. Furthermore, the present invention provides transgenic plant cells, seeds, tissues and whole plants that display an improved nutritional quality and contain such DNA molecules and/or that have been generated by use of the methods of the present invention.